

In response to the PTO Office Communication dated February 16, 2005, relating to Applicant's Response and Amendments to the First Office Action dated July 1, 2004, the Applicant does herein submit his corrected Response and Amendments.

This Response and Amendments are filed in a timely manner, and with a Petition for Extension of Time. This pleading would have been filed earlier, but the Applicant had a family emergency that set things back at least a few weeks. The Applicant's father, aged 89, had a massive heart attack on March 2nd, and the Applicant had to travel to Sussex County, Virginia, until his father was out of intensive care and settled in to transitional care at the local hospital.

AMENDMENTS IN THE DRAWING FIGURES

Please replace FIGS 26 and 27, originally filed with the present Divisional Patent Application, with the enclosed corresponding FIGS 26 and 27, labeled with the header "Replacement Sheet".

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-11 and 14-20, as indicated below, and please amend claims 12, 13, and 21-26, in the present Divisional Patent Application, to read as shown below:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12 (Currently amended). A Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 6, and further~~
comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

_____ c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

_____ d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

_____ e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;

_____ f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;

_____ g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon;

h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;

i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position;

j. said hinge rib extension has a primary dimple located thereon; and

k. said rib extension port has a primary dimple port located thereon.

13 (Currently amended). A Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 6, and further~~ comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;

f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;

g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon;

h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;

i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position;

j. said hinge rib extension has a plurality of primary dimples located thereon;
and

k. said rib extension port has a plurality of primary dimple ports located thereon.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21 (Currently amended). A truck having a Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 20, and~~
~~further~~ comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate, of said truck ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;

f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;

g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon, and on the truck;

h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;

i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position, on the truck;

j. a primary dimple located on said hinge rib extension, on the truck; and

k. a primary dimple port located on said rib extension port.

22 (Currently amended). A truck having a Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 20, and~~ further comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate, of said truck ;

- b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;
- c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;
- d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;
- e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;
- f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;
- g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon, and on the truck;
- h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;
- i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position, on the truck;
- j. a plurality of primary dimples located on said hinge rib extension, on the truck; and
- k. a plurality of primary dimple ports located on said rib extension port.

23 (Currently amended). A truck having a Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 20, and~~
~~further~~ comprised essentially of:

- a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate, of said truck ;
- b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;
- c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;
- d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;
- e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;
- f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;
- g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon, and on the truck;
- h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;
- i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position, on the truck;

_____ j. a primary dimple port located on said hinge rib extension, on the truck; and

_____ k. a primary dimple located on said rib extension port.

24 (Currently amended). A truck having a Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 20, and~~
further comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate, of said truck ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

_____ d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

_____ e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;

_____ f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;

_____ g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon, and on the truck;

_____ h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;

i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position, on the truck;

j. a plurality of primary dimple ports located on said hinge rib extension, on the truck; and

k. a plurality of primary dimples located on said rib extension port.

25 (Currently amended). A Retractable Stop, ~~as recited in claim 6, and further~~ comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;

f. said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib located thereon;

g. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge rib restraint located thereon;

h. said hinge rib has a hinge rib extension located thereon;

i. said hinge rib restraint has a rib extension port located thereon, to receive said hinge rib extension, when the retractable stop hinge is extended to the open position;

j. said hinge rib extension has a primary dimple port located thereon; and

k. said rib extension port has a primary dimple located thereon.

26 (Currently amended). A Retractable Stop, ~~as claimed in claim 6, and further~~ comprised essentially of:

a. a mounting plate extending across a portion of the width of a primary tailgate, and affixed to said primary tailgate ;

b. a first half of a retractable stop hinge located along one side of said mounting plate ;

c. and a second half of said retractable stop hinge located along one side of an extended arm;

d. said first half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge has a hinge pin port located along the hinge;

e. said first half of retractable stop hinge and said second half of retractable stop hinge are joined together such that their hinge pin ports form a common hinge pin port, and a hinge pin is passed through said common hinge pin port, thereby affixing the mounting plate to said extended arm, and said mounting plate affixed to the primary tailgate;